



IN REPLY REFER TO:

United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Harpers Ferry Center

P.O. Box 50

Harpers Ferry, West Virginia 25425-0050

December 5, 2001

Memorandum

To: Superintendent, Great Basin National Park

From: Wayside Exhibit Planner, Harpers Ferry Center

Subject: Reference and Graphic Request

Now that the wayside exhibit proposal is approved and a project agreement is in place, the next step toward development of the nine Wheeler Peak area wayside exhibits is for the park to compile a reference and graphic package. To help guide you in preparing the package, below you will find a graphic and reference request list. The collection and organization of these requested materials is perhaps the most critical step in the exhibit creation process. The more graphic-varied and content-rich you make the reference package, the better the final outcome of the wayside exhibits.

This is an important job that is best assigned to individuals who are familiar with the exhibit subject matter and who have good organizational skills. It requires creative and broad thinking to give us the best. The more thorough and meticulous you can be in preparing the materials, the less time you will likely spend running down additional graphics and references later.

Use the wayside exhibit proposal as your outline for collecting the materials. Read the purpose statements for each exhibit and then gather background materials and graphics that will help illuminate each exhibit purpose statement. Try to give us a wide selection of graphic images. Focus the reference materials as much as possible—sending us several highlighted pages from a book is better than sending us the book. We will not have time to do substantial research; we will depend on the park to pinpoint and highlight the best up-to-date information and research on the various site-specific topics. Though we have made specific suggestions for materials for each exhibit, please do not be limited by this. You know the subject matter best, so by all means add beyond the request.

Please organize the materials exhibit by exhibit. Often parks use a three-ring binder to organize the package, placing the reference text in the binder with the graphic images or associated reference maps in protective plastic sleeves, separated by dividers labeled by the appropriate

exhibit number. The more organized the materials are the better; a well-organized package will save the project time and money.

Photographs:

When sending us photographs, try to give us 35mm slide transparencies or B&W prints (Digital images are usually not acceptable because they are often not of production quality). If these are not available, quality photocopies will work for the short term. For all graphics identify the sources from which they were gathered, so we can obtain the use rights along with a reproduction-quality original later.

Maps:

For all exhibits requiring maps, we will need a good map reference. A U.S. Geological Survey map is usually the best reference; it generally depicts the most accurate landform information available. Define on the map the geographic area that should be shown. Highlight with a yellow marker the labels that are critical to keep, and strike through any labels that are nonessential. Remember that visitors will not be able to take these maps with them; the maps should be as simple as possible. Less is more.

Reference and Graphic Request List

Ex. 11: Reference material explaining what is meant by vertical plant communities and that identifies and describes each plant community that will be included on the panel. Reference material or research that describes the factors that shape or limit these plant communities. Photographs depicting each of the plant communities. Photos or existing art or illustrations that depict the vertical separations of plant communities.

Ex. 12: Reference material explaining what is meant by vertical animal communities or habitats and that identifies and describes each animal community or individual animal that will be included on the panel. Reference material or research that describes the factors that shape or limit the animals to particular habitats or plant communities. Photographs depicting each of the animals or animal communities. Photos or existing art or illustrations that depict the vertical separations of animal communities.

Ex. 13: Reference material that describes the Engelmann spruce-limber pine forest community. Information or related research that explains why the Snake Range has the highest coniferous plant diversity of any mountain range within the Great Basin region. Taxonomic information describing and illustrating the difference between Engelmann spruce and limber pine. Detailed information describing the trail distance, hiking time, grade, and physical challenge rating. Photos depicting an Engelmann spruce-limber pine forest. Photos of persons in wheelchairs or children being pushed in strollers on the trail and/or resting at one of the viewing platforms. Close-up photos or existing art that detail the identifying characteristics of Engelmann spruce and limber pine. Photos of birds, animals, or flowers found within an Engelmann spruce-limber pine forest.

Ex. 14: Reference material that explains the glacial story of Wheeler Peak and specifically describes how the glacial outwash rubble on the exhibit site arrived there. Reference material

that describes and illustrates how Mt. Wheeler creates its own weather. Photos, if available aerial photos and/or satellite imagery, and existing art or diagrams that depict the Mt. Wheeler Glacier, its path, and how it has carved and shaped the landscape. Photos showing Mt. Wheeler under stormy conditions.

Ex. 15: Reference material that explains how Mt. Wheeler watershed captures moisture sufficient to sustain permanent creeks and streams. Reference material that describes and illustrates the extent of the Mt. Wheeler watershed. A map or diagram showing the size of the Mt. Wheeler watershed. Photos depicting snow melt or rainfall runoff (flowing into Teresa Lake if possible). Photos of Teresa Lake. Photos of the seepage area below Teresa Lake. A selection of photos of Lehman Creek from its highest elevation to its lowest. An aerial photos, if available, that shows the Mt. Wheeler watershed and/or full range of Lehman Creek.

Ex. 16: Reference material and relevant research that explains how the water and lush plant life at this exhibit site attracts and supports a diversity of life. Reference material and research that explains how island biogeography has influenced the plants and animals found at this site, particularly water shrews, pea clams, and spring snails. A list of all the different plants and animals, including their common and scientific names, that should be depicted in a full-color art piece for this exhibit site. Photos and/or illustrations of all the plants and animals that are to be depicted in the art for reference use by the artist. Photos of the site from the exact vantage point of the visitor viewing the exhibit.

Ex. 17: Reference material and relevant research that explains how the forest gaps at this exhibit site were created by forest fire. Information that explains the site-specific plant succession that occurred here following the forest fire. Photos of forest fires in an Engelmann spruce-limber pine forest. Aerial photos showing gaps in the forest that were caused by fire. Close-up photos of fire evidence visible within the exhibit area.

Ex. 18: Information that describes the trails to the Bristlecone Pine Grove, the ice and rock glaciers, and Stella and Teresa Lakes, including trail distances, hiking times, and terrain descriptions. Information that describes the significance of each of the trail destinations features. Draft park messages about altitude sickness, rough terrain, weather hazards, giardia, and hypothermia. A USGS map showing the defined trail area, with highlighted and deleted labels. Color photos of Bristlecone Pine Grove, bristlecone pines, the ice and rock glacier, and Stella and Teresa Lakes—an aerial photo of the two lakes might work great if such is available. Photos showing hikers along the trail and at the different destinations.

Ex. 19: Information that describes the trail to Wheeler Peak, including trail distance, hiking time, and terrain descriptions. Information that describes the significance of Mt. Wheeler including personal accounts of the first climbers to the summit, if such exists. Draft park messages about altitude sickness, rough terrain, weather hazards, giardia, and hypothermia. A USGS map showing the defined trail area, with highlighted and deleted labels. Color photos that give visitors a preview of the trail, emphasizing the view along the Snake Range to the south where a succession of cirques is visible. Photos showing hikers along the trail and at the summit.

Please provide all requested materials by February 15, 2002. If you have questions or need clarification on an aspect of the request, please contact me at 304-535-6048. I look forward to receiving the reference and graphic package and to working with you on this important park project.